## **INFORMATIONAL LETTER #2000-16**

**DATE:** December 6, 2000

TO: ALL IDAHO HOSPICE AGENCIES

**FROM:** DEBBY RANSOM, R.N., R.H.I.T., Chief

Bureau of Facility Standards

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF THE JOINT COMMISSION FOR ACCREDITATION OF

HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS (JCAHO) FOR HOSPICES

Enclosed is a copy of information we received from the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) regarding the Final Regulation, dated and effective June 18, 1999.

The notice recognizes the Joint Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations as having demonstrated that all Medicare hospice conditions of participation are met or exceeded. HCFA has, therefore, agreed to grant deemed status to those hospices accredited by JCAHO.

If a JCAHO accredited hospice wishes to take advantage of deemed status, it should contact Sylvia Creswell at the Bureau of Facility Standards at (208) 334-6626, for information on how to apply. JCAHO accredited hospices will not be granted deemed status without applying.

Community Health Accreditation Program (CHAP) accredited hospices may also apply for deemed status under a final notice published in the Federal Register on April 20, 1999.

If you have any questions about the enclosed information, please call Sylvia Creswell at our office at (208) 334-6626.

DEBBY RANSOM, R.N., R.H.I.T., Chief Bureau of Facility Standards

DR/nah Enclosures